

PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1952

to which is added
the Annual Report of the
SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health W. Anley Hawes, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Lond.

Sanitary Inspector Mr. C. Green, M.R.San.I.M.S.I.A.

Town Hall,
Stamford.

May 1953.

To the Chairman & Councillors of the
Peterborough Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1952 to which is added the annual report of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

The general health of the district has been very satisfactory.

Statistics show a birth rate of 18.3 and death rate 8.5 compared with 15.3 and 11.3 respectively for the Country as a whole. Four still births were recorded, there were no deaths from maternal causes.

The incidence of infectious diseases has been low except for an epidemic of measles from which however there were no deaths and only one case was admitted to hospital. No cases of diphtheria or scarlet fever were notified. Four new cases of tuberculosis were notified as compared with 8 during 1951.

27 Council houses have been completed and a further 38 were in the course of erection. The Council have now built 241 houses since the war.

From the Surveyor's report it will be seen that the main concern of the district is the lack of a main sewerage system and I consider this matter to be of very considerable concern. With the low lying nature of the area relying on dykes for drainage of surface water it is virtually impossible to continue building houses without causing serious conditions unless main drainage systems be installed in the larger villages.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. ANLEY HATES,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	28,186
Population	7,480
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	2,265
Rateable Value	£22,797
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£86. 18. 11d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

		M.	F.	
<u>Live Births</u>	Total 137	71	66	
	Legitimate	67	63	
	Illegitimate	4	3	
Birth Rate per 1000 estimated resident population:-				18.8
Comparable figure for England and Wales:-				15.3
<u>Still Births</u>	Total 4	3	1	
	Legitimate	3	1	
	Illegitimate	-	-	
Rate per 1000 population				0.5
Comparable rate for England and Wales				0.35
<u>Deaths</u>	Total 64	30	34	
Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population:-				8.5
Comparable figure for England and Wales:-				11.3

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:-

		M.	F.	
	Total 2	-	2	
	Legitimate	-	2	
	Illegitimate	-	-	
Recorded number of deaths:-				Total
Year	Legitimate	Illegitimate		Deaths
1943	4	4		8
1944	3	-		3
1945	1	1		2
1946	3	-		3
1947	4	1		5
1948	6	-		6
1949	2	-		2
1950	-	-		-
1951	2	-		2
1952	2	-		2

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES

INJURIES AND CAUSES OF DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis respiratory	-	-
Tuberculosis (other forms)	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus	-	-
Malignant neoplasm of breast	-	4
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasm	1	2
Leukaemia & Aleukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	6
Coronary diseases, angina	9	4
Hypertension with heart disease	-	2
Other heart diseases	6	5
Other circulatory diseases	3	2
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	-	1
Bronchitis	3	-
Other Diseases Respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth & Abortion	-	-
Congenital malformation	-	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	1	2
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
All other accidents	1	1
Suicide	-	-
Homicide & operations of war	-	-
	<u>30</u>	<u>34</u>

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS THEREFROM

	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Pneumonia	2	-	1
Encephalitis	1	1	-
Measles	228	1	-
Whooping Cough	31	-	-
Total	262	2	1

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Not known	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Total
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	3	18	21	21	34	125	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	228
Whooping Cough	-	2	1	2	5	5	14	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Total	-	5	19	23	26	39	139	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	262

TUBERCULOSIS

	Deaths during 1952				New Cases during 1952			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1 yrs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 "	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1
15 - 25 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 "	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 "	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	1

Figures for 1951

Pulmonary

Non-Pulmonary

New Cases

7

1

FACTORY ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	21	27	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	31	37	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "Cases")

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) insufficient	-	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	4	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Nursing in the Home

Under the County Council Scheme District Nursing Services are available in all villages of the district.

Home Helps

Home Helps can be obtained through the County Council Services. Application should be made to :-

The Home Help Organiser,
County Council Offices,
Bridge Street,
Peterborough.

General Hospitals

Medical, Surgical and Maternity patients are admitted to the Memorial Hospital, Peterborough or Maternity Homes under charge of this hospital.

Cases of long term illnesses are admitted to St. John's Hospital, Peterborough.

All the above hospitals are administered by the Peterborough No. 12 Area Hospital Management Committee of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

Isolation Hospitals

Infectious cases are admitted to the Peterborough Isolation Hospital under the management of the above Hospital Management Committee. No difficulty has been experienced in arranging admissions.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) Provided by the Soke of Peterborough County Council

Child Welfare

Clinics:	(a)	Village Hall, Castor.	2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoon each month.
	(b)	Kendall's Tea Rooms, Eye.	1st & 3rd Tuesday afternoon each month.
	(c)	Village College, Glinton.	1st Thursday & 3rd Wednesday afternoons each month.
	(d)	School Canteen, Helpston.	4th Wednesday afternoon each month.
	(e)	Village Hall, Marholm.	2nd Thursday afternoon each month.
	(f)	Congregational Church Schoolroom, Maxey.	4th Thursday afternoon each month.
	(g)	Village Hall, Newborough.	2nd & 4th Tuesday each month.

School Clinic

At the Arthur Mellows Village College, Glinton.

Monday mornings.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Provided by the General Practitioner Service under the County Council Scheme.

(b) Provided by the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board,
Peterborough Area Hospital Management Committee

Tuberculosis - The Chest Clinic, 28 Fitzwilliam Street,
Peterborough.

Patients are seen by appointment.

Venereal Disease 28, Fitzwilliam Street, Peterborough.

Hours of attendance:--

Male Clinics

Mondays - (weekly) 5.30 - 7 p.m.
Thursdays - (weekly) 5.30 - 7 p.m.

Female Clinics

Wednesdays - (weekly) 5.30 - 7 p.m.
Fridays - (weekly) 10.30 - 12 noon.

Laboratory Facilities Public Health Laboratory,
Memorial Hospital,
Peterborough.

Bacteriological examinations are provided for
Preventative Medicine of the Public Health Service
and for the General Practitioner Health Service.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

The supply from the Peterborough City mains
has been adequate in quantity. No analyses have
been carried out by this Council.

Details of water supplies to houses in the respective villages as estimated by the Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector

	A.			B.		
	Total No. of Houses	Supplied direct to house	Population represented thereby	To Stand- pipes	Popula- tion represen- ted thereby	From Wells
AILSWORTH	77	23	77	48	168	6
BOROUGH FEN	88	42	150	35	122	13
CASTOR	170	88	309	58	202	24
DEEPING GATE	87	53	176	33	115	1
ETTON	50	24	85	18	63	8
EYE	656	514	1803	134	468	11
GLINTON	283	234	685	47	164	2
HELPS TON	219	138	483	75	262	6
MARHOLM	59	28	102	28	98	3
MAXEY	108	56	195	32	111	20
NEWBOROUGH	223	148	515	65	227	13
NORTHBOROUGH	113	77	258	25	87	11
PEAKIRK	89	41	143	45	157	3
SUTTON	27	10	35	14	59	3
UPTON	26	14	52	12	42	-

SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Apart from an epidemic of measles the incidence of infectious disease has again been very low, no case of scarlet fever or diphtheria was reported.

FOOD POISONING

No cases were reported.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Model Byelaws of the Ministry of Food are in use in the District.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No request was received for action under the National Assistance Act.

PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report

of the

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Water Engineer for

the year 1952

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my annual report for the year 1952.

Inspection, Complaints, Notices

Inspections 247, Revisits 325.

Complaints received 33.

54 informal notices were served under the Public Health and Housing Acts during the year.

52 notices (including 5 outstanding from 1951) have been complied with.

7 notices were outstanding at the end of the year.

Housing Act

65 informal inspections were made during the year.

31 complaints were received during the year.

Of these 26 were remedied as the result of personal calls on owners and 5 were remedied after the service of informal notices.

The Housing Survey has now been completed, the parishes of Borough Fen, Newborough and Eye having been surveyed during the year.

906 houses were inspected and placed in the various categories as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Categories</u>					<u>Total</u>	<u>Popln.</u>	<u>Baths</u>	<u>Sinks</u>	<u>W.C's</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>					
Eye	415	117	67	-	32	631	1892	351	489	434
Newboro'	57	61	55	-	36	209	209	53	141	36
Boro' Fen	46	9	9	-	2	66	214	42	51	10

Public Health Act 1936, Moveable dwellings

The number of moveable dwellings situated in various parts of the district for which licences have been granted for a specified period of time is 29.

Of these 17 are stationed on an approved site at Thorney Road, Eye. Action is being taken in conjunction with Soke of Peterborough County Planning Committee to get some of the undesirable sites closed down.

Infectious Diseases

Terminal disinfection has been carried out to 6 houses at Eye after the removal to hospital of cases of tuberculosis 4, Meningitis 3, (all in one house) Encephalitis 1 and to one house at Castor after a death from Cancer.

Factory Act.

The number of Factories on the register at the end of the year was 31.

Registrations cancelled during the year the building being no longer in use 1.

Number of inspections made 37.

Number of informal notices served 2, complied with 1.

Prosecutions Nil.

Shops Act

The number of shops on the register at the end of the year was 44.

Number of inspections made 74.
Contraventions found Nil.

Food and Drugs Act

Food Premises on the register 35.
Number of inspections made 78

<u>Defects</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Dirty Walls	7	5
Defective wall plaster	1	Nil

Condemned Food

During the year the following were condemned as unfit for human consumption for reasons as stated:-

1 - 15 oz. tin IXL peas.	Pierced and Rusty
2 - 14 oz. tins Italian tomatoes	Blown condition
23- 4¼ oz. packets of cheeses	Mouldy
1 - 4 lb. tin Danish pork Luncheon meat.	Decomposed

Milk and Dairies Regulations

There are 2 dairies in the district and regular inspections have been carried out. The following licences were issued during the year:-

3 supplementary licences to retail Sterilised milk
1 supplementary licence to retail Pasterised milk
1 supplementary licence to retail pasteurised and Sterilised milk
1 licence to retail Pasterised milk
1 licence to retail Tuberculin Tested milk

Slaughter houses

None in use in the district.

Rodent Control

In connection with the survey of premises, a total of 145 visits were made as follows:-

Private dwellings	37
Business premises	66
Agricultural premises	16
Council properties	16

During the year 19 disinfestation treatments were carried out as follows:-

Private dwellings	2
Schools	1
Sewage works and dykes	11
Refuse tips	3
Council properties	2

Sausage rusk bait, red squill and zinc phosphide poisons were used and a total of 43 rats were picked up. The cost of the work carried out to properties other than those owned by the Council was charged to the respective owners.

Plans

58 plans were submitted for approval under Building Byelaws during the year as against 53 for the year 1951.

Private Enterprise Building

17 plans for 18 houses to be erected by private enterprise were deposited for approval during the year distributed as follows :-

Eye	6
Newborough	2
Helpston	2
Glington	3
Deeping Gate	1
Maxey	1
Etton	1
Castor	1
Peakirk	1

13 new houses have been completed by private enterprise during the year distributed as follows :-

Castor	1
Newborough	2
Glington	1
Ailsworth	1
Deeping Gate	2
Marholm	1
Eye	5

18 houses being built by private enterprise were in course of erection at the end of the year distributed as follows :-

Newborough	5
Castor	1
Northborough	2
Glington	3
Maxey	1
Etton	1
Eye	5

Council Housing Scheme

The number of traditional houses completed during the year was 27 distributed as follows :-

Glington	13
Upton	6
Marholm	8

The number of houses in course of erection at the end of the year was 38, these being in the parish of Castor.

At the end of the year the Council had erected 241 houses since the war and now own a total of 451 houses and 4 temporary bungalows. This is approximately one fifth of the total number of houses in the district.

Maintenance work on Council Houses

External painting to 210 pre-war houses and 20 post-war houses was commenced during the latter part of the year. The work is being carried out by contract.

A considerable amount of repair work to doors and windows has been found necessary after old paint had been burnt off.

Other items of expenditure with the pre-war houses has been the provision of new grates and rain water tanks. In connection with the post-war houses the chief items of expenditure are the renewal of fire-baskets, fire-bricks, repairs to tiled surrounds to grates, and repairs to hot water systems.

Hutment Camp

There were at the end of the year 14 occupied huts at Marholm Camp, 6 having been vacated and closed down during the year. 3 of the families have been transferred to Council houses at Marholm.

Building Licences

The number of building licences issued during the year has been :-

Inside the Authorised Ceiling

New houses	21 at a total cost of £37,184
Conversions and Adaptions	10 at a total cost of £3,789

Licences issued by Special Authority from the Minister of Housing and Local Government

New Houses	Nil
Conversions	Nil
Repairs and Additions	2 at a total cost of £1,242

Housing Act 1949 (Improvement Grants)

An improvement grant of £295 was made during the year in respect of reconditioning and improvement work to a cottage in West Street, Helpston.

Improvements to 3 other houses for which grants were made, have been completed during the year.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The general position at the end of the year was much the same as stated in my annual report for 1951. The permission from the Ministry to proceed with the scheme for Eye was temporarily withdrawn but the work has (at the time of writing this report) been commenced.

The conditions in other parts of the district are rapidly worsening, despite all efforts by this department to mitigate, by continuous cleansing of the dykes, the nuisances arising from offensive odours from stagnant sewage, and the pollution of water courses. The only satisfactory solution is the provision of proper systems of sewage collection and disposal for the whole of the district. It is hoped that schemes already prepared by the Council may be commenced in the near future, as temporary schemes may not only prove costly to maintain, but may, in a short time, become inefficient and add considerably to the existing nuisances.

Further, the inefficient treatment of the sewage and its discharge into various ditches and water courses, may under certain conditions be a menace to health.

Water Supply

The total quantity of water purchased during the year has been 56, 543,000 gallons as against 50, 380,000 gallons for the year 1951. This large increase is due to the dry summer, supplies to new houses and fields, and an increase in fractures in mains and services, chiefly at Newborough and Borough Fen.

37 new services have been connected to mains during the year chiefly to new houses (including Council Houses) and Building Sites.

Petroleum (Regulations) Act 1928 & 1936

40 licences were granted during the year to store Petroleum Spirit for private usage or for sale.

The amount of fees collected in respect of licences issued amounted to £25. 10. 0.

March 1953.

I am, Sir and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
C. GREEN.